

## CLAIMS

### WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1        1. A housing for a portable handheld electronic device comprising:  
2                    a body portion having an internal cavity and an aperture opening thereto, said  
3                    body portion further having a perimeter portion surrounding the aperture;  
4                    a cover for the aperture;  
5                    one of the cover and perimeter portion having a groove and the other having a  
6                    projecting tongue element for mating engagement with the groove.

1        2. The housing of claim 1 further comprising a gasket disposed around the tongue  
2                    element.

1        3. The housing of claim 1 wherein the perimeter portion and cover are substantially  
2                    planar.

1        4. The housing of claim 1 wherein the tongue portion has a substantially "T"-shaped  
2                    cross section.

1        5. The housing of claim 1 wherein the housing and cover are molded from a  
2        thermoplastic elastomer.

*Sub A1 6*

1        A housing for a portable handheld electronic reader/scanner comprising:  
2        a body portion having an electronics enclosure portion and a handle portion, said  
3        electronics enclosure portion having an aperture surrounded by a perimeter portion;  
4        a substantially planar scan face adapted to cover said aperture;  
5        one of the scan face and perimeter portion having a groove and the other having a  
6        projecting tongue element for mating engagement with the groove.

1        7. The housing of claim 6 further comprising an end cap coupled to the handle  
2        portion.

1        8. The housing of claim 6 wherein the handle portion comprises a battery  
2        compartment.

1        9. The housing of claim 6 further comprising a gasket disposed around the tongue  
2        element.

1        10. The housing of claim 7 further comprising a gasket disposed around the end cap.

1        11.    The housing of claim 6 wherein the tongue portion has a substantially "T"-shaped  
2    cross section.

1        12.    The housing of claim 6 wherein the housing and cover are molded from a  
2    thermoplastic elastomer.

13.    The housing of claim 7 wherein the housing, cover and end cap are molded from a  
thermoplastic elastomer.